

Message Text

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EXDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. PARK: NO TROOP WITHDRAWAL NOW

PRESIDENT PARK TOLD GENERAL VESSEY, COMMANDER OF THE US
FORCES IN KOREA, THAT AMERICAN TROOPS SHOULD NOT BE WITH-
DRAWN FROM SOUTH KOREA AT THIS TIME. PARK ADDED THAT:

--US GROUND FORCES SHOULD STAY UNTIL ROK FORCES CAN
DETER WAR THEMSELVES OR UNTIL A NON-AGGRESSION PACT
IS SIGNED WITH NORTH KOREA.

--US AIR FORCES SHOULD REMAIN EVEN LONGER.

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PARK ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT INCESSANT AND DISTURBING US
PRESS COMMENT ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL.

EMBASSY COMMENT: GENERAL VESSEY CONCLUDES THAT PARK IS
WORRIED ABOUT BEING HANDED A FAIT ACCOMPLI WITHOUT GETTING
AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE HIS VIEWS AND CONCERNS KNOWN OR TO

INFLUENCE TIMING BEFORE A FINAL DECISION ON DRAWDOWNS IS MADE. (SECRET) SEOUL 457 (EXDIS), 1/18.)

2. OAU SUMMIT TO BE IN JULY

GABONESE PRIME MINISTER MEBIAME TOLD AMBASSADOR STEIGMAN ON JANUARY 17 THAT THE 1977 OAU SUMMIT DEFINITELY WILL BE HELD IN LIBREVILLE IN EARLY JULY. MEBIAME WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS, NEARLY ALL CHIEFS OF STATE WILL ATTEND. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) LIBREVILLE 136, 1/18.)

3. HEAVIER ARMS FOR ERITREAN REBELS?

A FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCE INFORMED EMBASSY KHARTOUM THAT A SHIPMENT OF IRAQI TANKS DESTINED FOR ERITREAN REBELS ARRIVED IN PORT SUDAN. ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, THE SUDANESE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET DECIDED IF IT WILL PERMIT TRANSFER OF THE TANKS TO THE ERITREANS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO CORROBORATE THE REPORT WHICH, IF TRUE, SUGGESTS THE LIKELIHOOD THAT FIGHTING IN ERITREA WILL ESCALATE. (SECRET) KHARTOUM 183, 1/18.)

4. KUWAITI DOLLARS FOR SPAIN?

EMBASSY KUWAIT REPORTS THAT THE VISIT OF A SPANISH FINANCE MINISTRY DELEGATION HAS SPARKED SPECULATION THAT A \$500
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MILLION LOAN TO SPAIN IS IN THE PIPELINE. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO CONFIRM THESE REPORTS AND CONSIDERS IT DOUBTFUL THAT THE GOK IS CONSIDERING SUCH A SIZEABLE LOAN. IT IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOK OR PRIVATE INVESTORS MIGHT PARTICIPATE IN A FUNDING PROJECT. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) KUWAIT 333, 1/18.)

5. IRAQ: PUTTING THE ABU DAOUD AFFAIR TO WORK

US INTERESTS BAGHDAD REPORTS A SOURCE STATEMENT THAT IRAQ WILL ATTEMPT TO USE THE US POSITION ON THE ABU DAOUD CASE TO MOBILIZE ARAB PRESSURE ON SAUDI ARABIA TO MAINTAIN SAUDI OIL PRODUCTION AT 8.5 BILLION BARRELS DAILY. ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, THE ESSENCE OF THE ARGUMENT WILL BE THAT THE SAUDIS ARE RECEIVING NOTHING IN RETURN FOR THEIR ACQUIESCENCE TO US PRESSURE FOR INCREASED OIL PRODUCTION. THE EMBASSY NOTES THAT IRAQ IS MAINTAINING SECRECY ON ANY DECISIONS IT MAY HAVE REACHED ON OIL PRICING AND PRODUCTION. ADDITIONAL INDICATIONS OF IRAQI MARKETING POLICIES MAY SOON

APPEAR WHEN SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING FRANCE,
BEGIN NEGOTIATING CONTRACTS FOR CRUDE PURCHASES FROM IRAQ.
(CONFIDENTIAL) BAGHDAD 115, 1/18.)

6. FRG: REFLATIONARY EFFORTS

GERMAN FINANCE ASSISTANT SECRETARY MANFRED LAHNSTEIN COM-
MENTED TO EMBASSY BONN ON THE PROPOSED \$30 BILLION US
STIMULATION PROGRAM AND THE FRG'S OWN EFFORTS IN THIS
DIRECTION. LAHNSTEIN BELIEVES THAT THE US AND THE FRG:

--SHARE THE SAME VIEW OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS AND
ARE ADOPTING SIMILAR RESPONSES;

--CONSIDER THAT OBJECTIVE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS DID NOT
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CALL FOR MORE EXPANSIONARY POLICIES; AND

--PLAN TO RUN SIMILAR DEFICITS WHICH WILL HAVE COM-
PARABLE STIMULATIVE EFFECTS ON THE RESPECTIVE ECONO-
MIES.

ACCORDING TO LAHNSTEIN, PESSIMISM OVER THE ECONOMIC SITU-
ATION IS UNJUSTIFIED, AND US AND FRG LEADERS MUST SEEK TO
IMPRESS ON THE WORLD A MODERATELY OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK TO
GENERATE A MORE POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGICAL TONE.

EMBASSY COMMENT: LAHNSTEIN STRONGLY IMPLIED THAT US PRES-
SURE ON THE FRG TO PURSUE A MORE EXPANSIONARY POLICY WOULD
BE UNWELCOME. THE CALLS OF THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION AND
THE OECD FOR GREATER GERMAN REFLATIONARY EFFORTS MAKE THE
FRG UNCOMFORTABLE AND IT HOPES THE USG WILL NOT JOIN THIS
CHORUS. (CONFIDENTIAL) BONN 990, 1/18.)
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